

United States Department of Agriculture
Center for Veterinary Biologics

Testing Protocol

SAM 620

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus)
Escherichia coli Bacterins

Date: **June 20, 2006** Approved, pending Standard Requirement

Number: SAM 620.02

Supersedes: BBSAM0620.01, April 28, 1999

Standard Requirement:

Contact: Janet M. Wilson (515) 663-7245

Approvals: /s/Paul J. Hauer Date: 22Jun06
Paul J. Hauer, Section Leader
Bacteriology

/s/Byron E. Rippke Date: 23Jun06
Byron E. Rippke, Director
Policy, Evaluation, and Licensing
Center for Veterinary Biologics

/s/Rebecca L.W. Hyde Date: 26Jun06
Rebecca L.W. Hyde, Section Leader
Quality Assurance
Center for Veterinary Biologics

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
P. O. Box 844
Ames, IA 50010

Mention of trademark or proprietary product does not constitute a guarantee or warranty of the product by USDA
and does not imply its approval to the exclusion of other products that may be suitable.

UNCONTROLLED COPY

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Materials**
 - 2.1 Equipment/instrumentation**
 - 2.2 Reagents/supplies**
- 3. Preparation for the test**
 - 3.1 Personnel qualifications/training**
 - 3.2 Preparation of equipment/instrumentation**
 - 3.3 Preparation of reagents/control procedures**
 - 3.4 Preparation of the sample**
- 4. Performance of the test**
- 5. Interpretation of the test results**
 - 5.1 Relative potency calculation method**
 - 5.2 Requirements for a valid assay**
 - 5.3 Requirements for a satisfactory test bacterin**
- 6. Report of test results**
- 7. Summary of revisions**

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

1. Introduction

This Supplemental Assay Method (SAM) for potency testing inactivated *Escherichia coli* bacterins employs a capture enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for K99 pilus antigen. Relative potency is determined by comparing the K99 antigen content of the test bacterin to the K99 antigen content present in an unexpired, suitably qualified reference bacterin.

2. Materials

2.1 Equipment/instrumentation

Equivalent equipment or instrumentation may be substituted for any brand name listed below.

2.1.1 Micropipettors, to cover the range of 5- μ L to 1000- μ L

2.1.2 8- or 12-channel micropipettor, to cover the range of 50- μ L to 200- μ L

2.1.3 Orbital shaker

2.1.4 Automatic microplate washer (optional)

2.1.5 Microplate reader with dual wavelengths (490 nm and 650 nm)

2.1.6 Balance, to measure 150 mg to 15 g

2.1.7 Relative Potency Calculation Software (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA], Veterinary Services, Center for Veterinary Biologics [CVB]), current version

2.2 Reagents/supplies

Equivalent reagents or supplies may be substituted for any brand name listed below.

2.2.1 96-well flat-bottom high-binding microtitration plates (Immulon 2; Dynatech Laboratories, Inc.)

2.2.2 96-well non-binding microtitration plates suitable for making serial dilutions (transfer plates)

2.2.3 Plate sealers

2.2.4 Carbonate coating buffer

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

- 2.2.5** Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.2
- 2.2.6** Phosphate-buffered saline with 0.05% Tween 20 (PBS-Tween)
- 2.2.7** Phosphate elution buffer (optional)
- 2.2.8** Sodium citrate for antigen elution (optional)
- 2.2.9** Sodium deoxycholate (desoxycholate) elution buffer (optional)
- 2.2.10** Citrate buffer (substrate diluent)
- 2.2.11** *o*-Phenylenediamine dihydrochloride (OPD)
- 2.2.12** Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), 30%, stabilized
- 2.2.13** 2.5M H₂SO₄ stop solution
- 2.2.14** K99-specific antigen-capture monoclonal antibody, available from the CVB. Refer to current reagent data sheet for details.
- 2.2.15** Horseradish peroxidase-conjugated K99-specific monoclonal antibody, available from the CVB. Refer to current reagent data sheet for details.
- 2.2.16** Test bacterin(s) containing K99 antigen
- 2.2.17** Reference bacterin containing K99 antigen (must be approved by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and within dating)

3. Preparation for the test

3.1 Personnel qualifications/training

Technical personnel need a working knowledge of the use of general laboratory chemicals, equipment, and glassware; automated microplate washer and microplate reader; and data analysis software. They need specific training in the performance of this assay.

3.2 Preparation of equipment/instrumentation

Operate and maintain all equipment according to manufacturers' recommendations and applicable standard operating procedures.

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

3.3 Preparation of reagents/control procedures

3.3.1 Carbonate coating buffer--National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) Media #20034

Na ₂ CO ₃	0.159 g
NaHCO ₃	0.293 g
Deionized water	q.s. to 100 mL

Adjust pH to 9.6 ± 0.1 . Store at 2°- 7°C for no longer than 1 week.

3.3.2 Phosphate buffered saline--NVSL Media #10559

NaCl	8.00 g
KCl	0.20 g
Na ₂ HPO ₄	1.15 g
KH ₂ PO ₄	0.20 g
Deionized water	q.s. to 1 L

Adjust pH to 7.2 ± 0.1 . Store at 20°- 25°C for no longer than 6 months.

3.3.3 Phosphate buffered saline with 0.05% Tween 20 (PBS-Tween)--NVSL Media #30179

PBS (see Section 3.3.2)	1000 mL
Tween 20	0.50 mL

Store at 20°- 25°C for no longer than 6 months.

3.3.4 Phosphate buffer for antigen elution

KH ₂ PO ₄ (Mallinckrodt, Inc. 7100 or equivalent)	8.2 g
Deionized water	94 mL

Adjust pH to 9.3 ± 0.1 , or other appropriate pH as optimized for use with a specific bacterin. Store at 20°- 25°C for no longer than 1 month.

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

3.3.5 Sodium deoxycholate (desoxycholate) elution buffer

Sodium desoxycholate (Difco Laboratories 0248-13-7 or equivalent)	0.50 g
PBS (see Section 3.3.2)	100 mL

Store at 2°- 7°C for no longer than 1 month. Warm to 20°- 25°C prior to use (the buffer gels at 2°- 7°C).

3.3.6 Citrate buffer (pH 5.0)--NVSL Media #20033

Citric acid monohydrate (reagent grade)	5.26 g
Na ₂ HPO ₄ •7H ₂ O	6.74 g
Deionized water	q.s. to 1 L

Adjust pH to 5.0 ± 0.1 and filter sterilize. Store at 2°- 7°C no longer than 2 months. Use to prepare substrate solution (see **Section 3.3.7**).

3.3.7 Substrate solution (quantities for 1 plate)

Citrate buffer	12 mL
<i>o</i> -Phenylenediamine dihydrochloride (OPD) (Sigma P8787 or equivalent)	4 mg
30% H ₂ O ₂ (stabilized)	5 µL

Prepare within 15 minutes of use.

Caution: <i>o</i>-Phenylenediamine dihydrochloride is a carcinogen. See appropriate MSDS for precautions when handling this product.

3.3.8 Stop solution (2.5 M H₂SO₄)--NVSL Media #30171

Concentrated (98%) H ₂ SO ₄	13.6 mL
Deionized water	86.4 mL

Add acid to water. Solution may be stored no longer than 1 year at 20°- 25°C.

3.3.9 Monoclonal antibodies (MAb)

1. K99 antigen-capture monoclonal antibody (2BD4E4). Obtain MAb from the CVB. Refer to the current reagent data sheet for details on use and storage.

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

2. Horseradish peroxidase-labeled K99 antigen-indicator MAb (2BD4E4). Refer to the current reagent data sheet for details on use and storage.

3.3.10 Bacterins containing K99 antigen

1. Reference bacterin
2. Test bacterin(s)

CRITICAL CONTROL POINT: Ideally, the reference and test bacterins should be produced by the same Outline of Production. If reference formulation differs from that of the test bacterin, the assay must be validated to show that this does not adversely affect assay performance or accuracy of results.

3.4 Preparation of the sample

Antigen-elution treatments: Many bacterins do not require antigen-elution treatment prior to being serially diluted in twofold increments with PBS-Tween. Test representative batches of each adjuvanted product with and without each antigen-elution treatment to determine if the treatment specifically enhances the K99 antigen capture. If no enhancement of the K99 antigen capture can be demonstrated, test the bacterins without antigen-elution treatment. Treat the reference bacterin and the test bacterins by the same elution procedure. Alternate elution procedures, other than those described here, may be more appropriate for some bacterins.

1. Aluminum hydroxide-adjuvanted bacterins

Bacterins adjuvanted with aluminum hydroxide may be treated with either sodium citrate or phosphate buffer prior to making serial twofold dilutions in PBS-Tween.

- Sodium citrate elution

Mix 1.0 g sodium citrate with 10.0 mL of bacterin (10% w/v). Place on an orbital shaker (100-120 rpm) overnight at 35°- 37°C. Consider treated bacterin to be undiluted.

- Phosphate buffer elution

Mix 1.0 mL of phosphate elution buffer with 1.0 mL of bacterin. Place on an orbital shaker (100-120 rpm) overnight at 35°- 37°C. Consider treated bacterin to be diluted 1:2.

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

2. Oil-adjuvanted bacterins

Mix 1.0 mL of sodium desoxycholate elution buffer with 1.0 mL of bacterin. Place on an orbital shaker (100-120 rpm) overnight at 35°- 37°C. Consider treated bacterin to be diluted 1:2.

4. Performance of the test

4.1 Dilute the K99 antigen-capture MAb in cold carbonate coating buffer (refer to the current reagent data sheet for dilution) and place 100 µL in each well of 96-well flat-bottom, high-binding microtitration plates. Seal coated plates with plate sealers. Incubate coated plates overnight at 2°- 7°C. Coated plates stored at 2°- 7°C may be used for up to 5 days.

4.2 Make twofold dilutions of reference and test bacterins using PBS-Tween as a diluent. Add 125 µL PBS-Tween to each well of a clean microtitration plate (transfer plate). Place 125 µL of bacterin in the first well of each row. Test each bacterin in at least 2 replicate rows. Test the reference bacterin and the test bacterin on the same plate. Use a multichannel micropipettor to make serial twofold dilutions of each bacterin across the plate (125 µL transfer volume). Reserve at least 2 unused wells on each plate to serve as blanks. The use of at least 7 serial twofold dilutions per bacterin is recommended. Ideally, the selected bacterin dilutions should delineate the sigmoid curve from antigen saturation to antigen extinction for each bacterin. The dilutions used for the reference bacterin and the test bacterin may differ.

4.3 Wash the coated ELISA plates 3 times with PBS-Tween. An automatic plate washer (200-300 µL/well, 10- to 40-second soak cycle) may be used, or the plates may be washed by hand. Tap the plates upside down on absorbent material to remove residual fluid.

4.4 Use a multichannel micropipettor to transfer the bacterin dilutions from the transfer plates to the coated ELISA plates (100 µL/well). Seal the ELISA plates and incubate them on an orbital shaker (100-120 rpm) for 30 minutes (± 5 minutes) at 20°- 25°C.

4.5 Wash the ELISA plates 3 times with PBS-Tween as in **Section 4.3**.

4.6 Dilute the horseradish peroxidase-labeled K99 antigen-indicator MAb in PBS-Tween to the current use dilution (refer to the current reagent data sheet for dilution), and add 100 µL to each well. Seal the ELISA plates and incubate on an orbital shaker (100-120 rpm) for 30 minutes (± 5 minutes) at 20°- 25°C.

4.7 Wash the ELISA plates 3 times with PBS-Tween as in **Section 4.3**.

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

4.8 Add 100 μ L freshly prepared substrate solution to each well. Incubate the ELISA plates on an orbital shaker (100-120 rpm) for 10 minutes (\pm 5 minutes) or until sufficient color develops at 20°- 25°C.

4.9 Stop the substrate color development by adding 100 μ L stop solution to each well.

Note: The OPD substrate undergoes a color shift from yellow to orange when stop solution is added.

4.10 Read the ELISA plates using an ELISA reader with dual wavelengths (490 nm test, 650 nm reference). Calculate the mean absorbance for the blank wells. Subtract the mean absorbance of the blank wells from each bacterin test well absorbance value prior to data analysis.

5. Interpretation of the test results

5.1 Relative potency calculation method

5.1.1 Use the current version of the *Relative Potency Calculation Software* (RelPot) to calculate the relative potency of the test bacterin as compared to that of the reference bacterin.

5.1.2 Do not use bacterin dilutions with mean optical density (O.D.) values <0.050 (after subtraction of the mean O.D. of the blank) in the relative potency calculations.

5.1.3 Do not use first order linear regression lines with slopes >-0.150 in relative potency calculations. Enter a minimum slope (Min Slope) assay parameter of 0.150 in the spreadsheet in place of the 0.000 default.

5.1.4 Enter the reference and test bacterin data, and execute the relative potency program as outlined in the current version of **SAM 318**.

5.1.5 Report the highest relative potency (RP) value included in the top scores from each test as the RP for the test bacterin.

5.2 Requirements for a valid assay

5.2.1 An assay must meet the validity requirements in the current version of **SAM 318** to be considered valid.

5.2.2 Lines determined by first-order linear regression of at least 3 contiguous points must have a correlation coefficient (r) of ≥ 0.95 .

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

5.2.3 The reference regression line and the test bacterin regression line must show parallelism (slope ratio ≥ 0.80).

5.2.4 Assays that are not valid may be repeated up to a maximum of 3 times. If a valid assay cannot be achieved with 3 independent assays, the test bacterin is unsatisfactory.

5.3 Requirements for a satisfactory test bacterin

To be considered satisfactory, a test bacterin must have an RP value of ≥ 1.0 . Test bacterins with RP values < 1.0 on a valid assay may be retested by conducting 2 independent replicate tests in a manner identical to the initial test. If both retests are valid and the reported RP values of both of the retests are ≥ 1.0 , the test bacterin is satisfactory.

6. Report of test results

Report results of the test(s) as described by standard operating procedures.

7. Summary of revisions

This document was revised to clarify practices currently in use at the Center for Veterinary Biologics and to provide additional detail. While no significant changes were made that impact the outcome of the test, the following changes were made to the document:

- **2.2.1** The plates used have been further defined as high-binding.
- **2.2.2** The plates used have been further defined as non-binding.
- **2.2.9** Alternative names for the chemical have been included.
- **2.2.13** The stop solution has been further defined.
- **2.2.17** The parameters of the reference have been further defined as within dating.
- **3.3.8** The stop solution recipe has been updated.
- **3.4.12** The incubation temperature has been changed.
- **4.8** Additional information on stopping the reaction has been added.
- References to internal documents have been replaced with summary information.

Supplemental Assay Method for Potency Testing Enterotoxigenic (K99 Pilus) *Escherichia coli* Bacterins

- A statement referring the user to the current reagent data sheet has been added throughout the document.
- The contact has been changed to Janet Wilson.